

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Twice Amended) A method for bidding by vendors of customized goods or services, comprising steps of:

receiving a vendor record, said vendor record having vendor identifier data representing a vendor, and a vendor capability data identifying a capability of said vendor to provide a customized good or service for each of a plurality of vendors in a pool of vendors;

receiving a job data from a buyer, said job data having a buyer identifier data, and a job descriptor data representing a custom job for which said buyer wishes a price quote or bid;

automatically comparing said vendor records to said job data;

automatically identifying at least one group from the pool of vendors as qualified for receiving an invitation for bid, based on said comparison;

transmitting a solicitation to only selected members from the pool of vendors;

receiving bid response data from at least one of said vendors which received said solicitation, said bid response data identifying each of the vendors from which it was received and a bid price; and

outputting to said buyer said bid response data.

Please cancel Claims 2 through 4 and Claims 6 through 24.

2. (Now Cancelled)
3. (Now Cancelled)
4. (Now Cancelled)
5. (Previously Cancelled)
6. (Now Cancelled)
7. (Now Cancelled)
8. (Now Cancelled)

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9. (Now Cancelled)

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